IN THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY CENTER OF IOWA, ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL and SIERRA CLUB,

Petitioners-Appellants,

vs.

IOWA UTILITIES BOARD,

Respondent-Appellee,

and

OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

and

MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY,

Intervenors-Appellees.

IOWA SUPREME COURT NO. 21-1788

POLK COUNTY DISTRICT COURT CASE NO. CVCV061580

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A REPLY BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS-APPELLANTS ON BEHALF OF INTERVENOR THE IOWA OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

COMES NOW, the Iowa Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa Department of Justice, pursuant to Iowa R. App. P. 6.1002, and for its Motion for Leave to File a Reply Brief, states as follows:

1. On February 28, 2022, Petitioners-Appellants, Environmental Law and Policy Center of Iowa, Environmental Council and Sierra Club (Appellants), filed their notice of appeal from the District Court's ruling on Appellants' Petition for Judicial Review and from the District Court's ruling on OCA's Motion to Reconsider, Amend, And Enlarge. OCA did not file a notice of appeal. OCA recently

learned that to be treated as an appellant before this Court with the right to file a reply brief, OCA should have also filed a notice of appeal. OCA requests this Court grant its Motion for Leave to File a Reply Brief in Support of Appellants due to OCA's well-documented participation in this matter and due to the lack of prejudice because no party resists OCA's motion.

- 2. In the District Court proceeding below, OCA intervened, pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.19(2), and stated its intent to joint with Appellants pursuant to Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.1603(1). *See* Docket Entries, pg. 3. The District Court granted OCA's intervention. *Id.* OCA filed a Brief in Support of Appellants' Petition for Judicial Review and a Reply Brief in Support of Appellants' Petition for Judicial Review. *Id.* at 4–5.
- 3. OCA fully participated in the underlying proceeding before the Iowa Utilities Board. *OCA Proof Brief*, pg. 7.
- 4. OCA mistakenly believed that its intervention joining with Appellants at the District Court stage of this proceeding would grant OCA similar status with this Court.
- 5. Due to its mistaken belief, OCA filed its Proof Brief on the same date Appellants filed their Proof Brief. Further, both the Iowa Utilities Board's and MidAmerican Energy Company's Proof Briefs respond to OCA's Proof Brief. OCA and Appellants raise similar arguments in their respective Proof Briefs.
- 6. OCA has conferred with counsel representing the Iowa Utilities Board, MidAmerican Energy Company, and Appellants, and no party resists OCA's Motion for Leave to File a Reply Brief.

7. OCA has conditionally filed its Proof Reply Brief as an attachment to this Motion and it has been served on all parties to this appeal.

OCA respectfully requests this Court grant its Motion for Leave to File a Reply Brief.

Dated: August 1, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

JENNIFER C. EASLER Consumer Advocate

/s/ Jeffrey J. Cook
JEFFREY J. COOK
Office of Consumer Advocate
Department of Justice
1375 East Court Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Ph: (515) 725-7205
Email: jeffrey.cook@oca.iowa.gov
ATTORNEY FOR INTERVENOR
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

CERTIFICATE OF FILING AND SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies he electronically filed the foregoing Intervenor Office of Consumer Advocate Motion for Leave to File a Reply Brief on August 1, 2022, in EDMS, which will send notice of this filing to all parties and attorneys of record.

/s/ Jeffrey J. Cook 8/1/22 Signature Date